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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/695,253	10/27/2003	YiRen Hong	1229.006	4327
37421	7590	06/27/2006	EXAMINER	
WAX LAW GROUP 2118 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SUITE 407 SANTA MONICA, CA 90403			COMAS, YAHVEH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2834	

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/695,253		HONG ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Yahveh Comas		2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11-12, 14-17 and 19 -22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11-12, 14-17 and 19 -22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new grounds of rejection is made in view of Tagata JP Patent No. 2000209803 A and Nitta et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,604,389.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

1. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-9, 11-12, 14-17 and 19 -22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagata JP Patent No. 2000209803 in view Nitta et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,604,389.

Tagata discloses a an spindle motor comprising a rotatable component defining a bearing gap and relatively rotatable with a stationary component, a base plate (32a) affixed to the stationary component, a data storage disk attached to the rotatable component, a stator (7), affixed to the stationary component, for generating an electromagnetic force that interacts with the rotatable component and drives the rotatable, wherein the stator (7) and the base plate (32a) define a separation there between and a motor seal is provided. Tagata discloses the claimed invention except for a bonding substance formed substantially about the stator, substantially filling the separation and wherein the base plate axial thickness is minimized adjacent to the separation.

However, Nitta discloses an spindle motor comprising a rotatable component defining a bearing gap and relatively rotatable with a stationary component, a base plate (4) affixed to the stationary component, a data storage disk attached to the rotatable component, a stator (1), affixed to the stationary component, for generating an electromagnetic force that interacts with the rotatable component and drives the rotatable, wherein the stator (1) and the base plate (4) define a separation there between, and a bonding substance (10), formed substantially about the stator (1), substantially filling the separation and uniting the base plate (4) (column 3, lines 55-60) in order to reduce the thickness of the motor.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagata's invention and provide a bonding substance formed substantially about the stator, substantially filling the separation and wherein the

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base plate axial thickness is minimized adjacent to the separation as disclosed by Nitta since that would have been desirable in order to reduce the thickness of the motor.

Regarding claims 3-4, 11-12 and 19, Tagata in view of Nitta discloses the claimed invention except for the bonding substance being a thermally conductive epoxy comprising one of TC-2707 and DP-190. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a thermally conductive epoxy comprising one of TC-2707 or DP-190, since it has been held to be within the general skill of the worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416.

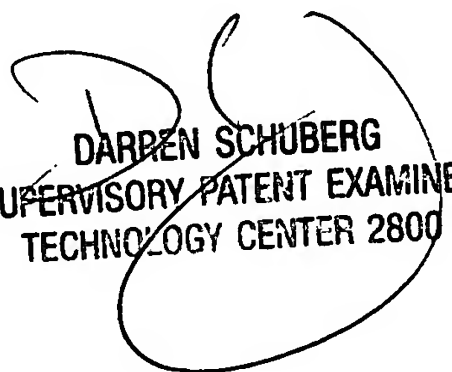
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yahveh Comas whose telephone number is (571) 272-2020. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on 571-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

YC


DARREN SCHUBERG
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